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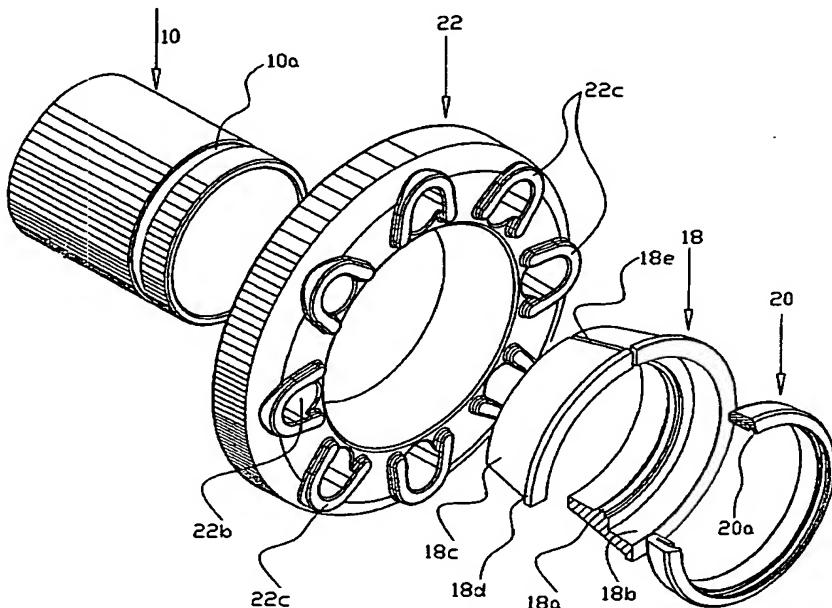
For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

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(54) Title: PIPE COUPLING



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(57) Abstract: A pipe coupling for connecting a pipe to a flange associated with another pipe in a sealed manner. The pipe (10) is formed with circumferential groove (10a). The coupling comprises a gasket (20), a mounting ring (18), and a mounting flange (22). The ring (18) is elastically expandable, e.g. by being split, and formed with projecting rib (18a) adapted to fit into the groove (10a) and hold the ring affixed to the pipe (10). The mounting flange (22) is tightened against both the ring (18) and a counter-flange (12), through matching cone-shaped surfaces (18c, 22a).

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/02/00427

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 F16L23/028

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 F16L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 3 861 722 A (KENYON STEWART S) 21 January 1975 (1975-01-21) column 1, line 57 - line 65; figure 1	1,2
A	----- US 3 761 114 A (BLAKELEY J) 25 September 1973 (1973-09-25) figures	3-6,14, 15,17
A	-----	1,9,10

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

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- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

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